

Amendment to the Claims:

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

Listing of Claims:

1. (currently amended) A video content transmitting system having at least one-a plurality of video content transmitting servers and being capable of transmitting requested video contents in response to a request from any of video content play terminals connected via a network to said at least one plurality of video content transmitting servers, said video content transmitting system comprising:

means for storing information of a network protocol capable of video content transmission between the video content play terminal and the video content transmitting server; said network protocol information storing means including a table of protocols for facilitating communication for each combination of said video content transmitting server and said video content play terminal, and

means for determining selecting a video content transmitting server from the plurality of video content transmitting servers based on a protocol determination of the protocols of the table in respect of the video content play terminal issuing the request to thereby determine the video content transmitting server capable of transmitting said requested video contents to a relevant video content play the video

~~content play terminal requesting said video content transmission, in accordance with the network protocol information stored in said information storing means, wherein said network protocol information storing means includes a table storing a name of each network protocol capable of video content transmission between each terminal and each video content transmitting server.~~

2. (canceled)

3. (previously presented) A video content transmitting system according to claim 1, wherein:

 said network includes at least a first network and a second network, in one transmission mode, the first network is used when a video content transmission request is transmitted to the video content transmitting system from the video content play terminal and the second network is used when the video contents are transmitted from the video content transmitting server to the video content play terminal in response to said video content transmission request; and

 said video content transmitting system further comprises:

 means for storing an address for identifying the video content play terminal that issued the video content transmission request via the first network and an address for identifying the video content play terminal receiving the video contents via the second network; and

means for determining a video content destination address to which the video contents are transmitted, in accordance with the stored addresses of the video content play terminal on the first and second networks.

4. (currently amended) A video content transmitting system having ~~at least one-a plurality of~~ video content transmitting servers and being capable of transmitting requested video contents in response to a request from any of a video content play terminals connected via a network to said ~~at least one-plurality of~~ video content transmitting servers, said video content transmitting system comprising:

means for storing information of a network protocol capable of video content transmission between the video content play terminal and the video transmitting server, said network protocol information storing means including a table of protocols for facilitating communication for each combination of server and terminal, and

means for selecting video content transmitting terminals from the plurality of video content transmitting servers based on a protocol determination to the protocols of the table in respect of the request issuing terminal;

means for managing information of a total available bandwidth for video content transmission of a network route between each video content play terminal and each video content transmitting server, and information of a bandwidth now in use for the video content transmission; transmission, said managing means including

a table storing information indicative of a correlation between each network route,
the total available bandwidth, and the bandwidth now in use;

bandwidth calculating means for calculating a bandwidth of the network route
to be used for transmission of requested video contents; and

transmission processing means for determining the video content transmitting
server capable of transmitting the requested video contents to the requested video
content play terminal among the plurality of video content transmitting servers, in
accordance with the total available bandwidth, the bandwidth now in use in the table
and the calculated bandwidth necessary for video content transmission, determined
by said bandwidth calculating means.

~~wherein said bandwidth information managing means includes a table storing
information indicative of a relation between each network route, the total available
bandwidth and the bandwidth now in use.~~

5. (canceled)

6. (previously presented) A video content transmitting system according to
claim 4, wherein:

the network includes at least a first network and a second network, in one
transmission mode, the first network is used when a video content transmission
request is transmitted to the video content transmitting system from the video
content play terminal and the second network is used when the video contents are

transmitted from the video content transmitting server to the video content play terminal in response to said video content transmission request; and
said video content transmitting system further comprises:
means for storing an address for identifying the video content play terminal that issued the video content transmission request via the first network and an address for identifying the video content play terminal receiving the video contents via the second network; and
means for determining a video content destination address to which the video contents are transmitted, in accordance with the stored addresses of the video content play terminal on a first terminal on the first and second networks.

7. (currently amended) A video content transmitting system having at least one a plurality of video content transmitting serverservers and being capable of transmitting requested video contents in response to a request from any of a video content play terminals connected via a network to said at least one plurality of video content transmitting serverservers, said video content transmitting system comprising:

means for storing information of a network protocol usable for video content transmission between the video content play terminal and the video content transmitting terminal, said network protocol information storing means including a table of protocols for facilitating communication for each combination of video content transmitting server and video content play terminal;

means for managing information of a total available bandwidth for video content transmission of a network route between each video content play terminal and each video content transmitting server, and information of a bandwidth now in use for the video content transmission;

bandwidth calculating means for calculating a bandwidth of the network route to be used for transmission of requested video contents; and

transmission processing means for determining selecting a video content transmitting terminal from the plurality of video content transmitting servers based on a protocol determination to the protocols of the table in respect of the request issuing terminal to thereby determine the video content transmitting server capable of transmitting the requested video contents to the requested video content play terminal, in accordance with the stored network protocol information and/or in accordance with the total available bandwidth, the bandwidth now in use and the calculated bandwidth necessary for video content transmission

~~wherein said network protocol information storing means includes a table storing a name of each network protocol capable of video content transmission between each terminal and each video content transmitting server.~~

8. (previously presented) A video content transmitting system according to claim 7, wherein:

the network includes at least a first network and a second network having a transmission bandwidth larger than a transmission bandwidth of the first network, the

first network is used when a video content transmission request is transmitted to the video content transmitting system from the video content play terminal and the second network is used when the video contents are transmitted from the video content transmitting server to the video content play terminal in response to the video content transmission request; and

 said video content transmitting system further comprises:

 means for storing an address for identifying the video content play terminal that issued the video content transmission request via the first network and an address for identifying the video content play terminal receiving the video contents via the second network; and

 means for determining a video content destination address to which the video contents are transmitted, in accordance with the stored addresses of the video contents play terminal on the first and second networks.

9. (currently amended) A video content transmitting method for a video content transmitting system having ~~at least one~~ a plurality of video content transmitting ~~servers~~ servers and being capable of transmitting requested video contents in response to a request from any of video content play terminals connected via a network to said ~~at least one~~ plurality of video content transmitting ~~servers~~ servers, said video content transmitting method comprising the steps of:
 preparing a table for storing information of a network protocol capable of video content transmission between the video content play terminal and the video content

transmitting server, said table of protocols for facilitating communication for each combination of said video content transmitting server and said video content play terminal; and

selecting a video content transmitting server from the plurality of video content transmitting servers based on a protocol determination of the protocols of the table in respect of the video content play terminal issuing the request the request issuing terminal to thereby determining determine the video content transmitting server capable of transmitting said video contents to a relevant video content play terminal requesting video content transmission, in accordance with said network protocol information stored in said table, said table storing a name of each network protocol capable of video content transmission between each terminal and each video content transmitting server.

10. (currently amended) A video content transmitting method for a video content transmitting system having ~~at least one~~ a plurality of video content transmitting ~~server~~ servers and being capable of transmitting requested video contents in response to a request from any of video content play terminals connected via a network to said ~~at least one~~ plurality of video content transmitting ~~server~~ servers, said video content transmitting method comprising the steps of:

storing information of a network protocol capable of video content transmission between the video content play terminal and the video transmitting

server in a storage device, said storage device including a table of protocols for facilitating communication for each combination of server and terminal,
selecting video content transmitting terminals from the plurality of video content transmitting servers based on a protocol determination to the protocols of the table in respect of the request issuing terminal;

managing information of a total available bandwidth for video content transmission of a network route between each video content play terminal and each video content transmitting server, and information of a bandwidth now in use for video content transmission; said managing using information stored in a second table indicative of a correlation between each network route, the total available bandwidth, and the bandwidth now in use;

calculating a bandwidth of the network route to be used for transmission of requested video contents; and

determining the video content transmitting server capable of transmitting the requested video content play terminal among the plurality of video content transmitting servers, in accordance with the total available bandwidth, the bandwidth now in use in the second table and the calculated bandwidth necessary for video content transmission determined by said bandwidth calculation.

~~wherein said bandwidth information managing means includes a table storing information indicative of a relation between each network route, the total available bandwidth and the bandwidth now in use.~~

11. (currently amended) A video content transmitting method for a video content transmitting system having at least one a plurality of video content transmitting ~~server servers~~ and being capable of transmitting requested video contents in response to a request by from any of video content play terminals connected via a network to the said plurality of video content transmitting ~~server servers~~, said video content transmitting method comprising the steps of:

preparing a table for storing information of a network protocol usable for video content transmission between the video content play terminal and the video content transmitting server; ~~server, said table of protocols for facilitating communication for each combination of video content transmitting server and video content play terminal,~~

managing information of a total available bandwidth for video content transmission of a network route between each video content play terminal and each video content transmitting server, and information of a bandwidth now in use for video content transmission;

calculating a bandwidth of the network route to be used for transmission of a requested video contents; and

~~determining-selecting a video content transmitting terminal from the plurality of video content transmitting servers based on a protocol determination to the protocols of the table in respect of the request issuing terminal to thereby determine the video content transmitting server capable of transmitting the requested video contents to the requested video content play terminal, in accordance with the stored network~~

protocol information and/or in accordance with the total available bandwidth, the bandwidth now in use and the calculated bandwidth necessary for video content transmission, said table storing a name of each network protocol capable of video content transmission between each terminal and each video content transmitting server.

12. (previously presented) A video content transmitting method according to claim 11, wherein said table for storing information of a network protocol usable for video content transmission between the video content play terminal and the video content transmitting terminal can select a network protocol in accordance with the request by the video content play terminal and a network infrastructure.

13. (previously presented) A video content transmitting system according to claim 7, wherein said network information storing means includes a table storing a name of each network protocol capable of video content transmission between each terminal and each video content transmitting server,

wherein said bandwidth information managing means includes a table storing information indicative of a relation between each network route, the total available bandwidth and the bandwidth now in use.